



TUNNEL TOP NEWSLETTER

Keeping Barnton Informed - Please take me **I'M FREE**



February 2008

BARNTON PARISH PLAN GROUP



Surveys have been delivered - the future is now in your hands

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If you wish to report a crime or see anyone acting suspiciously - call the POLICE

**0845
458 0000**

To report a crime ANONYMOUSLY call Crimestoppers on

**0800
555 111**

Working in partnership with the police

JANUARY 2008 HAS SEEN the pink Barnton Parish Plan Surveys dropping through your letter box, completing Stage One, engaging the whole community in identifying their aspirations for Barnton, one of the largest parishes in the country.

Please do not pass up on the opportunity to make your thoughts, needs and wants made known by completing the survey (closing date 28th February 2008) in order to shape and develop the community as you feel appropriate. Especially in light of the new West Cheshire Unitary Authority becoming live in 2009, when Vale Royal Borough Council will cease to exist.

Stage Two will see the publication of The Parish Plan, with the history of Barnton up to the present community issues of the day. Survey findings will be presented in a variety of formats for easy reading and understanding based on the analysis and the publication will be distributed to the whole community providing a transparent process with which to complete the next phase.

Stage Three will see completion of the Action Plan based on the findings in The Plan and will engage local partners to demonstrate their willingness to work with the community to realise aspirations and address any

issues. Once the Action Plan is completed it will be available for monitoring on www.barntonvillage.org.uk enabling the community to track progress, I will also keep you informed through the *Tunnel Top* Newsletter.

The average percentage of surveys returned for a large parish is 30% and below and for a small parish anything upwards of 60%. Therefore, this is a rallying call, let us show the powers that be and other parishes just what Barnton can do!

The higher the percentage of returns increases bargaining power to get what we want, empowering discussions with relevant authorities or when submitting funding bids to implement the Action Plan and most of all shows Barnton residents and businesses care about their community and want their voice heard.

The Group has ensured a widespread of collection boxes throughout the village - see back of survey - and a good number of residents have also volunteered their services to aid collection, a big thank you to them.

If you have any questions about the survey or require yours collecting, any group member identified in the survey will be happy to help.

Lynn Gibbon
Barnton Parish Plan Chair

Parish Council meeting dates - 25th February, 31st March, 28th April

BARNTON SILVER BAND



2008 IS WITH US and Christmas seems a long time ago. The concerts at Little Leigh Church on Friday 7th December, and Barnton Methodist Church on Saturday 15th December were well received. We changed the format from other years. Not only did we play instrumental pieces, but also invited the audience to join in singing Christmas Carols. This was very popular.

At the moment we are getting down to some serious rehearsals in preparation for the 'Area' contest in Blackpool on Sunday March 9th. Our 'test piece' is called 'Four Cities Symphony', the cities being London, Paris, Rome and Moscow. Each movement represents a city and the composer has included melody lines that are very familiar. It is a very pleasant piece to play and listen to. So if you feel like a day trip to the Winter Gardens to support us we would be very pleased.

It is many years since the Band has had a regular percussion section. If there is anyone who would be interested please get in touch (01606 44457 evenings).

More information on our website:
www.barntonsilverband.co.uk

Christopher Ravenscroft

MID CHESHIRE AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Pantomime
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

Will now be performed at:
THE GRANGE SCHOOL THEATRE,
BRADBURNS LANE, HARTFORD.

Performances will take place at the following times:
Saturday Evening, 15th March 2008 at 8pm.
Sunday Matinee, 16th March 2008 at 2pm
Sunday Evening, 16th March 2008 at 7pm.
All tickets: £5 unreserved

To obtain tickets for any of these
performances please ring:
David Parks 01606 871233.

We apologise to everyone who booked tickets for the show and hope that we will see you at our alternative venue.

I would like to thank the Head Teacher and his Staff at THE GRANGE SCHOOL for their immediate positive response to our urgent appeal. Please come along and join in the fun

DEVELOPMENT WORK at Moss Farm Leisure Complex has created a new poolside sauna and extra gym facilities.

The old sauna room has been transformed into a new circuit gym and a brand new sauna has been installed at the poolside.

All the programmed classes have been transferred to the new gym, which has left the existing gym with unlimited access for all members and pay-as-you-go customers.

"Unlimited access to the gym is something our gym users have requested for quite some time, so we are delighted we are in a position to make these changes," said Lead Councillor for Recreation Rural and Culture, Cllr John Grimshaw.

"The new equipment is excellent so I hope it will attract new people to get fit, as well as re-motivate regular users," he added.

To contact Moss Farm Leisure Complex phone 01606 783835.

Vale Royal Borough Council
is officially
excellent



A few words from our PCSO - Diana Wiggins

FIRSTLY I WOULD LIKE TO wish everyone a great New Year, Things were quiet over the Christmas and New Year period, with not very many reports of anti social behaviour, the run up to Christmas was for reassurance to be given to the whole community,

It was great to see the young ones at school performing their Christmas play. They work so hard and deserve all the praise that they get.

I have been the PCSO for Barnton now for 12 months and it has been a pleasure patrolling the area and getting familiar with a lot of the residents. The job is very rewarding, helping residents with whatever issues that they may have. We work a lot with the different partnership agencies, and problem-solve some of the issues together.

I recently started up a Police surgery and this has been very successful in offering all residents an opportunity to discuss concerns with myself, and pass on valuable information regarding activities detrimental to the Barnton community. All discussions are totally confidential, and I thank those who have made good use of the opportunities and encourage all residents to take advantage of these surgeries, speak to me during my patrols or contact me on **0845 458 0000** or **0845 458 6392**.

PC Stopford has moved on to response duties, and PC Jepson has now taken on the responsibility for Barnton as well as his existing role in Winnington. I look forward to a pro active year ahead and will give reassurance to all the Barnton residents - young and old. There are a lot of lovely people in Barnton and that is what I feel makes it such a lovely place. I feel that you should be proud of what you have .



BARNTON POLICE SURGERIES

at Barnton Memorial Hall

Saturday 16th February

Saturday 8th March

Saturday 29th March

10am until 12 noon

Any issues that you wish to raise will be treated as private and confidential

NEWS FROM BARNTON LIBRARY

Information, Inspiration, Imagination

Books, CDs, DVDs, free computer access, story times, author events, all of this and more are available for you at Barnton Library.



Happy 2008! We finished 2007 in style with a fabulously fun story time with lots of festive cheer.



Feel free to bring your children along to our regular story time, it is suitable for all pre-school age children and includes rhymes as well as stories every Thursday at 3.45pm.

We welcome in the New Year with a new member of staff, Eleanor Moss. Eleanor will be based at Northwich Library but will be visiting Barnton regularly to help with events and activities.

We have also added to our computer facilities with an extra Peoples Network machine. The PCs can be used free of charge for up to one hour per day.

We are committed to two initiatives this year - National Year of Gardens and National Year of Reading. Watch this space for events and activities.

If you have any suggestions for events and activities you would like to see at Barnton Library we would love to hear from you.

**Rachel Foster
Group Librarian**

Opening hours:	Monday	2pm -7pm
	Tuesday	closed
	Wednesday	2pm - 7pm
	Thursday	2pm - 5.30pm
	Friday	2pm - 5.30pm
	Saturday	10am - 1pm

Telephone and Fax: 01606 77343

email: barnton.library@cheshire.gov.uk

BARNTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Anti-Bullying Week and BLUE FRIDAY

Anti-bullying week is all about raising awareness of bullying and teaching children how to take action against bullying.

This year we took part in Anti-Bullying week in November through daily PSHE lesson focusing on 'What is Bullying?' and the procedures for pupils to follow if they are being bullied.

Anti-Bullying week was a busy week in school. All children had the opportunity to design posters to display around school and took part in role play as part of their lessons on bullying.

Anti-bullying week finished with 'Blue Friday' a National Day that aimed to raise awareness of bullying. On Blue Friday all children were asked to raid their wardrobes for blue clothes to wear for the day to show their support towards anti-bullying.

Staff and pupils worked closely together to write a school Anti-Bullying Code of Conduct. All pupils signed up to the agreement with a blue handprint.



CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS 2007

Snow White (Key Stage 2)

Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 put on a spectacular performance of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Pupils performed a twist of the traditional story based on Roald Dahl's hilarious, modern script.

The audience witnessed Snow White (played by Abigayle Thomson, Year 5) escape from the wicked Witch (Amy Cheetham, Year 5) and her huntsman (Jack Hopping, Year 4) to find refuge with Seven ex-jockeys.

With the help of the magic mirror, Snow White helped the ex-jockeys to win at the races!



Fox Ikin (Year 3), Jack Hopping (Year 4), Abigail Hayes-Johnston (Year 5), Abigayle Thomson (Year 5), Samantha Garner (Year 5), Eleanor Bass (Year 6).



Daniel Allington (Year 5), Ryan Jones (Year 5), Tegan Robinson (Year 3), Bethany Maires (Year 5), Romy Peers (Year 4), Bethany Preston (Year 5), Polly Bebbington (Year 5).

The Lucky Owl (Key Stage 1)

Owl (Played by Leigh Dutton, Year 2) was very cold and despite all of his friends trying to help him by loaning him their clothes, he could not warm up. Mary and Joseph were also looking for somewhere warm to stay and were lucky to find a stable to shelter for the evening. The Lucky Owl was invited to join them and was also there to witness the birth of Jesus.

The children from Year 1 and Year 2 all had important parts to play in this special Christmas Performance. With their beautiful singing voices and dance routines they created a superb performance for everyone to enjoy.



Aaron Littler (Year 2), Emily Fallows (Year 2), Hayden Thomson (Year 2) Olivia Sharpes (Year 2), Shannon McCafferty (Year 2) and others.



Joseph Cox (Year 1), Ollie Edwards (Year 1), Kieran Astles (Year 1) and others.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY MINISTRIES (CCM)

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY MINISTRIES (CCM) have worked from our Barnton base since 1992. For the last 12 years or so we have operated our little charity shops on Runcorn Road. The charity runs a children's home in Romania using funds from the shops. We like to think that we also provide a service to the local community - our prices reflect that. One of our shops sells furniture, the other clothing, bric-a-brac, books, toys etc.

CCM was founded by Barnton-born-and-bred man, Max Keelty who can be contacted at the charity office: 105 Runcorn Road on 01606 782244 or by email: maxkeelty@ccm-international.org

Make a Difference - become a Home Start Volunteer



Do you have parenting experience?
Could you spare 3 hours a week of your time?

Could you be a Home-Start Volunteer and help a Mum or Dad who needs someone to talk to, someone to listen or someone just to lend a hand?

We offer training, expenses and lots of support.

**Call Christine or Joyce on 01606 75222
or email chrisbhomestart@aol.com
for further information**

1st Barnton Scout Group



In 2008 Scouting celebrated its centenary.

For most of the 100 years there has been a Scout Group in Barnton

Being the largest youth movement in the U.K. with 600,000 U.K. members and 25 million worldwide proves the success of Scouting. This has been achieved, by moving forward with the times and providing an exciting programme.

We have vacancies in all sections



Beavers 6-8 year olds
Monday 6pm



Cub's 8-10 year olds
Tuesday 7pm



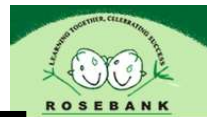
Scouts 10-14 year olds
Monday 7:30 pm

New leaders and helpers are always welcome

For further information telephone 781591 or call at the Scout Hall.

At the junction of Church Road and Mond Street.

ROSEBANK SCHOOL



BBC Philharmonic come to rosebank

THE HIGHLIGHT OF the autumn term was a performance of the 'Rosebank Train Ride'. This was the culmination of a series of visits by 4 musicians from the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra who helped our pupils to compose and play their own unique pieces of music.



Pupils working with musicians from BBC Philharmonic.



New room for Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and relaxation activities.

The concert was timed to celebrate the completion of a new extension to the school which provides a Music Therapy room and a large space for Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and relaxation activities.

National Autistic Society Accreditation

Rosebank School is accredited by the NAS who carry out regular inspections to ensure that the school is still meeting the required standards. Following a 3-day visit by an NAS Accreditation Team in November, we were all delighted when the school received a glowing report which cited no less than 10 areas of good practice.

Thank You...

... to all those who supported Rosebank following the theft of large amounts of lead from our roof, including the roof on our brand new extension. We very much appreciated the moral support given by the local community and would like to say a special thank you to the firms and individuals who gave donations to the school following this event.

John Ellis retires as Trustee Treasurer

John Ellis was presented with a small gift (an inscribed tankard, a certificate of merit and photo mementoes) from the trustees for his committed and dedicated work to the Memorial Hall. John has been actively involved in the building of the new Hall and wants others to take up where he has left off.

He said: 'The Hall is in a very strong financial position, has the full backing of the Parish Council and the users in the village. It is a Hall fit for the 21st century.'

Hall Acoustics

A grant has been applied for to line the ceiling of the hall with acoustic tiles. The outcome should be known in March.

New Disco Lights

Disco lighting has been installed which will pick up the beat of the music and create swirls of lights on the dance floor. These are available at no extra cost when using the Hall for parties.

Puddles Banished!

Our builder has installed a land drain on the car park. This has virtually eliminated the puddles that were forming in bad weather.

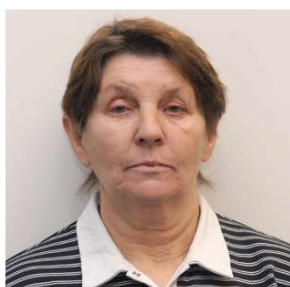
Car Parking

The Memorial Hall car park is owned by the Trustees. The Trustees have agreed to let the football club use the car park provided the Memorial Hall users have priority. Those people attending football club functions should park on the stoned area of the car park only. The marked bays are for people attending the Memorial Hall.

Important dates for 2008

Hall Annual General Meeting - Thursday 19th June, 7.30pm.
Maintenance close down - Monday 18th - Sunday 24th August.
Blood Bank Days - April 11th, August 1st and December 24th.
Closed Christmas Day and New Years Day 2009.

Joyce starts as Hall Caretaker in January



Mrs Joyce Spencer.

Mrs Joyce Spencer starts as one of our caretakers in January. She is replacing Michelle Johnson who has left to take up a full time job. Joyce has been involved with the role of caretaker all her life and she is looking forward to working at the Memorial Hall.

Our three caretakers are: Vic Knop, Barry Watkin and Joyce Spencer. You can contact the duty caretaker on **07906 858759**

HALL USERS

Currently the Hall is used for a number of activities on different days - some of which are listed below:

Monday	Karate and Slimming World
Tuesday	Keep Fit and Youth Club
Wednesday	Dance Classes
Thursday	Ju-Jitsu, Juggling, Knitting Club
Friday	Karate and Sequence Dancing
Saturday	Police Surgery - every 3rd Saturday (from 5th Jan), Dance Classes, Karate
Sunday	Karate

MID CHESHIRE COLLEGE

are planning to run a Creative Spring Flower Arranging course at Barnton Memorial Hall commencing on 19th February 2008.

This is a 4 week course, finishing on 11th March 2008. The course is on a Tuesday from 1-3pm. The cost of the course is £24 plus £5 materials.

Could you please contact
the Community Education Team
on 01606 720527 or 720721
for information or enrolment details

The Barnton Memorial Hall Clerk, Bernadette O'Donnell has said that she will retire at the next AGM of the Trust.

The Trustees would like to invite applications for the post of clerk. The applicant would need to be highly motivated as the job deals with all matters relating to the running of the hall. The post is part time and will take about 10 hours spread out through the week.

If anyone is interested please contact John Turnbull on 01606 783442.

BARNTON YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

AS SEASON 2007/2008 nears its end, Barnton YFC have teams looking for promotion, check out the fixtures and details on our website www.barntonyfc.co.uk and come along and support the teams.



During 2007/2008 season Barnton YFC have had eight teams registered and competing and it is our intention in 2008/2009 to make that 10, with two new teams being entered into the under 7's and under 10's age groups.

For the two new teams we are looking for players, managers and coaches, don't be shy, come forward if you want to help, training on an FA Level 1 course is available. All the other managers at the club started out as novices!!

Players for the 2008/2009 Season new teams -

Under 7's -

Must be over 6 and under 7 at midnight on August 31st

Under 10's -

Players must be over 8 and under 10 at midnight on August 31st

Pupils in the current school year 3 or 4

If you are interested then please contact Chris Dymond on 01606 79149.

Barnton YFC is still on the look out for areas for larger pitches, any landowner out there who has some flat ground available please contact Chris Dymond.

CONSERVATION AREAS

Conservation Areas are many and varied. They were introduced by the Civic Amenities Act of 1967, and are now an accepted part of Town and Country Planning legislation and practice. More than 9,300 have been designated in England. Local Authorities are required to identify "areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance". They are also under a duty to review existing designations regularly.

Designation of a conservation area provides additional planning controls over the demolition of buildings and the undertaking of work to trees. Higher standards of design are required from any developments, which are expected to enhance the area's character.

The character of an area depends upon its historic background, the architectural quality and interest of its buildings, their materials and detailing, the way they relate to each other, the line of the highway, the quality of the landscape, trees and open spaces and a variety of unique features.

The government has asked local planning authorities to undertake conservation area appraisals that provide a description of those characteristics. Ideally appraisals should be no more than five years old and produced with a degree of community involvement. Appraisals can form the basis for management plans and enhancement schemes for the area.

See **Conservation Areas on the Council's web site** www.valeroyal.gov.uk for further details.

www.barntonyfc.co.uk
Established 2001
An FA Charter Standard Club

Community Football

Session No. 3

on

SUNDAY 16TH MARCH

at Barnton Football Club

(Townfield Lane)

STARTING AT 10.30AM

THESE SESSIONS cater for Children aged 3 to 5, and will consist of a full 1½ hour Session. The aim of these sessions will be to introduce young children to the wonderful game of football, through fun games, demonstrations and special training techniques especially developed for very young players.



This invitation is for both Girls and Boys, regardless of ability.



Please check the Barnton YFC website for any change of details:

www.barntonyfc.co.uk

Registration is to Adam Green

Phone: 01606 74866. Leave your name, child's name, age and emergency contact number.

Text: 07887 948911. Text your name, child's name, age and emergency contact number.

Email: adamgreen@btinternet.com (enter minnows in the subject line). Send your name, child's name, age and emergency number.

Places are limited so please book early.

What to bring:

Appropriate football kit, warm waterproof clothing (as the sessions will be held outdoors), and a drink.

Children must wear Shin Guards.

Children will receive a football certificate and free buffet lunch.

(We regret we cannot cater for special dietary needs).

www.barntonyfc.co.uk

Barnton Youth Football Club

Affiliated to the Cheshire county Football Association.
Registration No. DYM 00641

Awarded the FA Charter Standard 2004



Members of the
Mid Cheshire Youth Football League
& the Cheshire Girls Football League



Barnton Cricket Club



A tree planting ceremony marks 50 years tenure at their 'Broomsedge' ground. Barnton members have been busy marketing their successful '50 Years of Wielding the Willow' by making efforts to increase their playing membership with a special emphasis directed towards junior cricket and future generations of 'Budding' cricketers.

Coaches Paul Coot, Peter Johnson and Keith Jones are preparing to welcome all members and hoping to improve the clubs all-round playing performances.

Anyone who wishes to restart playing or to take up the game can contact any of the above Coaches, Club Captains or Club Officials or for any additional details by contacting the club direct on **01606 77702**.

Parents who wish to look round the club and its facilities should contact a Club Official for further details.

It is anticipated that practice sessions using the club's new and recently constructed Outdoor Nets, will start in early April. These sessions will follow on from the club's Winter Indoor Sessions which will be held at St. Nicholas High School, Hartford, starting on Friday evenings from 8pm to 9pm from the end of February.

The start of the Cricket Season will also mark the summer season for 'Squash Players' and a very busy time for the 'Crown Green Bowlers' both of these sections are still open to people who would like to submit applications to become playing members, in line with the Club Rules.

To aid the sections of the club there is availability for successful functions at the Club as we have a good sized function room that is available for various uses i. e. Christenings, Weddings, Birthdays (21st and over) We have a new chef 'Alan Elhams' who would be delighted to talk to anyone regarding their food requirements, we can also arrange for entertainment if required.

Please note there will be functions organised throughout the year. The first of which will be 'Valentines Night' Saturday 16th February, followed by a Race Night at the beginning of March.

Please look out for forthcoming events that will be posted around the village or you can contact 'Mike Elliott' for further information.

George Haspell
BCC Club Press Liaison Officer



You can
leave
information
for the
Northwich

Community
Action Team on

0845

458 6392

This is an answerphone

Or email:
Northwich.

cat@cheshire.
pnn.police.uk



TUNNEL TOP
NEWSLETTER

Keeping Barnton
Informed

Editorial Team

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Contact us by e-mail:
fkc@sky.com
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jennyjeffs@sky.com
www.barntonvillage.org.uk

Or leave a message at:
The Library,
Townfield Lane,
Barnton

The Beech Tree Inn



SADLY ON MONDAY
14TH JANUARY 2008

the Beech Tree closed its doors for business. I, and many more people like me, hope that it will open again quite soon, because apart from a drinking establishment it also supports a Quiz night, Pool team, Ladies Darts Men's Darts and a Bowling Club which is run by the club members, the green is also maintained by them and has been for some 50 years.

Over the years it has hosted Wedding receptions, Anniversaries, Christenings receptions, Birthday parties, Engagements, you name it and the Beech Tree has held it.

It is a very important part of the history of Barnton, and if it remains closed it will be impossible to replace, just like the Farmers Arms which has gone in Rudheath. Let us hope that this pub will open again soon and continue to be a happy place to meet people in.

For all the true Barntonians this pub is part of their heritage. It has always been there, and long may it remain so.

Frank Clare

Barnton Village
Website:

www.barntonvillage.org.uk

If you enjoyed reading this issue of Tunnel Top please pass it on to a friend